



Press Release

Public Affairs Section

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US Department of Labor announces \$13 million grant to combat exploitative child labor in Peru

LIMA, DECEMBER 20, 2011 – The United States Department of Labor (DOL) today awarded a \$13 million grant to a group of regional non-governmental organizations to combat exploitative child labor practices in Peru. The four-year program will operate in the Huancavelica, Pasco and Junín regions and will target 6,500 children who labor in agriculture and other work sectors in rural Peru. Desarrollo y Autogestión (DYA), the grant winner will lead an international consortium of NGOs. The implementing partners are the Peruvian NGO Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo (DESCO) and the U.S.-based NGO World Learning. DYA is an Ecuador-based NGO with extensive experience working with governments, NGOs and the International Labor Organization to improve educational and work opportunities for marginalized communities in the region.

The grant announced today is a direct result of bilateral discussions held in August in Lima between an inter-agency U.S. Government delegation and representatives of the Government of Peru. The U.S. delegation traveled to Lima to consult with the new Humala Administration to explore ideas on how the United States could support the Peruvian Government's social inclusion agenda.

Exploitative child labor in Peru is most prevalent in agriculture, commerce, domestic service and mining. It contributes significantly to the social and economic exclusion of impacted children and families. The program will support Peru's social inclusion objectives by providing training and assistance to rural families to improve their incomes, expanding educational opportunities and vocational training for rural children, and helping impacted communities to organize and partner with government institutions to improve policy and service delivery to at-risk communities. The project will begin in 2012.

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